

# Amateur TRW radio Club WB6WPO

# cross talk

A MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Sponsored by Systems Employee Association

September 1972

Vol. VI, No. 9

TRW/ARC Net Saturdays

7.280 KHz

1000 PDT

## CLUB MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

OFFICE	NAME	CALL	LOCATION	PHONE
PRESIDENT	PAUL WEISZ	K6PSE	R2 1150	62412
VICE-PRESIDENT	BOB GOAD	WB6KVE	M4 2230	52763
SECRETARY	JERRY DEAN	WA6GVO	R3 1072	61612
ACTIVITY MANAGER	MAC MC GREW	W6YCZ	S 365	53380
TREASURER	FRANK HALLIGAN	WB6GBC	E1 3005	61266
TRUSTEE	CARL ROTHROCK	W6MYC	S 389	50345
CROSS-TALK EDITOR	ED THORNLEY	WA6JHD	R6 2188	52621
EMERGENCY COORDINATOR	AL LEE	K6KQI	R5 1171	61673
FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN	DOUG HEYDON	WB6WDS	M3 2087	50454
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	TED CARTER	WN6PAS	E1 4037	62006
QSL MANAGER	TED CARTER	WN6PAS	E1 4037	62006
SEA COUNCIL REP	JACK KOHO	WN6QKM	S 1471	53285
TRAINING MANAGER	AL LEE	W6KQI	R5 1171	61673

.....NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/S.....

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Henry L. Richter, W6VZA,  
Chief Comm. Officer, L.A. County RACES  
Sgt Carl Kennedy and Sgt Frank Oakden,  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Plus Mobile RTTY Van on Display

Friday, September 29, 1972

1200 PDT

Building E2 Presentation Room

.....NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/SPECIAL NOTICE/S.....

THE PREZ SEZby Paul Weisz, K6PS<sup>W</sup>

On behalf of the entire club, I would like to thank Cec Jordan, WB6KHF for his outstanding presentation on Alaskan VLF experiments at last month's meeting. VP Bob Goad and Publicity Manager Doug Heydon, who has been pinch-hitting for Bob in recent weeks, are to be congratulated for arranging the current series of excellent club meeting programs.

We have a special event scheduled for Friday September 29th which will preempt the regular club business meeting. Doug Heydon and Carl Rothrock have arranged to have Dr. Henry Richter, W6VZA and L.A. County Sheriff's Sgt's Carl Kennedy and Frank Oakden present for discussion of the new L.A. County RACES disaster communications plan. Dr. Richter is Chief Communications Officer for this region. Sgt. Kennedy (TRW/ARC Associate Member) and Sgt. Oakden are in the Sheriff's Department disaster communications organization. This meeting has excited wide interest in the South Bay area, and will be attended by representatives from TRW Systems Group Security and from several local communities. We will have an opportunity to learn how we may contribute to the RACES program, in the long-standing tradition of amateur radio public service.

73, and see you there

Paul

TRAINING PROGRAM

by Al Lee, W6KQI

Congratulations are in order to the five graduates of the second Novice course. They all have passed the code test and several have completed the FCC written exam. The graduates are: Sue Kennedy, Carl Kennedy, Gary Pankey, Gary Smith and Dwight Weber. Carl chose to take the Technician License exam which will allow him to operate the two-meter equipment installed in his County Sheriff's Plymouth Station Wagon.

The new Novice Course began Monday September 18th with Doug Heydon again instructing the Code Class and Al Lee covering Novice theory. Our new General Class Course began Tuesday September 19th with two new instructors; Jim McWilliams W6RTG, handling the Code and Paul Alward covering the theory portions of the course.

Our first class of General Class students continues, being very capably instructed by Jack Clarke, WB6TCR and Ben De Piazza, WB6SVV. There are several students ready to take their General Class exams, but they are continuing to attend classes so they can absorb all of the knowledge and practice they can get. In the next few months, I think there will be several WN6 calls changed on our club roster.

NOVICE ROUND-UP

Doug Heydon, WB6WDS has suggested that a Novice Round-Up on the air should be a good way to add a Club activity and give some of our new Novice ops a chance to work each other and also our many General and up Class member stations. This would provide chances to acquire the TRW/ARC Certificate and a good opportunity for some of us phone-only types to get the rust off the key. The 40-meter CW band is probably the place to do it. Give Doug your thoughts and maybe we can set a date for this event.

PROJECT 73 - PROGRESS REPORT

By Doug Heydon, WB6WDS

The first working meeting on the Club project was held on 19 September. Participating were Ted Carter (WN6PAS), Jim Curtis (WA6PYS), Cec Easley (WA6BZW), Nelson Hayes (W6VBB), Doug Heydon (WB6WDS), Jack Manon (W6FIG), Carl Rothrock (W6MYC) and Roger Trapp (K6SSN). Some of the key objectives and features to be included in the design are:

- Self-contained, compact, lightweight communication package (need only mike/key, battery, antenna).
- Emphasis on practicality - something that can be duplicated, using available parts.
- All solid state, 12 V.D.C. - no power converters required. Broad banded R.F. stages.
- Fully bandswitched, 80 - 10.
- SSB and good CW capability.
- "Modular design", in sense of versatility to use/leave out features.

A system block diagram has been roughed out, with subsections assigned for further refinement as follows:

RF input and output	Jack Manon
Mixers and filters	Carl Rothrock
Local oscillators	Jim Curtis
IF and audio	Nelson Hayes

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, 3 October at noon in M3/2087. Call me on 50454 if you would like to be notified and/or care to participate. Still needed are volunteers for overall design integration and packaging design.

WANT AD DEPARTMENT

For sale - Swan 260 5-band SSB transceiver, built-in AC/DC power supply and all up to date factory modifications - call Les Bunning, K6LOX, (714) 985-3309, ext 3309

For sale - Viking Ranger I transmitter - good CW rig for Novice, and Hammarlund HQ129X Receiver - full coverage, call Claude Malott, W6NYC, ext 51204 or (714) 826-2809

FROM THE EDITOR

by Ed Thornley, WA6JHD

Your editor wishes to apologize for the poor quality of printing in our August issue of Cross-Talk. Seems like the old mill just needed a new ribbon. Hope this issue reads easier.

SECRETARY'S REPORTBy Frank Halligan, WB6GBC

The regular monthly meeting of the TRW/ARC Executive Board convened at 1205 on Tuesday, September 12, 1972 in the E1-4002 conference room. The meeting was called to order by F.X. Halligan, WB6GBC, in the absence of the President. Board members present were Ted Carter, Doug Heydon, Jack Koho, Al Lee, Mac McGrew and Ed Thornley, and visitor Dwight Weber.

Club business was discussed as follows:

1. Publicity Doug Heydon reported that a publicity release is still pending for Club training classes.
2. September meeting Doug Heydon indicated that plans are being completed for September Club Meeting. Program will cover L.A. County disaster communications and radio amateur participation. (RACES)
3. Training Program Al Lee reported that all was ready to commence the General and Novice Class training course and requested \$ 55 for course materials.
4. Instructors Al Lee announced that Jim McWilliams, W6RTG and Paul Alward will be instructors in code and theory respectively.
5. SEA Allotment Jack Koho advised the Board that the SEA Allotment check for \$ 73.75 had been received.
6. Field Day A motion was made by Ed Thornley and voted by the board, that September Cross-Talk would list Field Day Operators who scored 100 or more contacts.
7. Project 73 Doug Heydon announced that he has been "underwhelmed" with responses to his appeal to start the club's wide band amplifier project. Doug indicated that both Nelson Hayes, W6VBB and Roger Trapp, K6SSN, are interested and that a technical meeting was scheduled for September 19th.
8. Fall Dinner The Fall Dinner committee was formed, consisting of Mac McGrew and Ed Thornley, to plan an early November Dinner Meeting.
9. W6TRW call for club Doug Heydon raised (once again!) the issue of special call letters (W6TRW) for the club station. Subsequent discussion failed to define any specific course of action.
10. DX-pedition Frank Halligan indicated the possibility of a club sponsored DX-pedition, to be scheduled for early 1973. The 24-hour activity would be planned using a special call and a QTH on Santa Catalina Island. Any club member interested in joining the DX-pedition Planning Committee should contact Paul Weisz.

The Meeting was adjourned at 1305.

Respectfully submitted  
F.X. Halligan, Treasurer

FALL DINNER MEETINGBy Mac McGrew, W6YCZ

As noted in the minutes of the board meeting, the club will hold a dinner meeting this fall. Please reserve the evening of November 18th for this affair, which is becoming an annual event with the TRW/ARC. The ladies are invited, and we hope to have a program of interest to all, with a speaker, door prizes and of course, good food and fellowship. A special announcement providing all the details will be mailed to all members during the month of October.

TREASURER'S REPORTBy Frank Halligan, WB6GBC

Balance on hand July 31, 1972..... \$ 154.69

Receipts

Dues(new members)	\$ 2.00
Dues(renewals)	2.00
QSL Card Orders	20.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24.50</b>

Expenses

Picnic (net)	\$ 1.16
QSL Printing	11.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.16</b>

Balance on hand August 31, 1972..... \$ 167.03

FIELD DAY SCORES

The Field Day Committee, after exhaustive review of logs, is happy to present the following list of operators who scored 100 or more contacts during our 1972 Field Day Operation.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Total Contacts</u>
Ben De Piazza	WB6SVV	358
Herb Gleed	W6FQ	235
John Underhill	W6HRE	229
Frank Halligan	WB6GBC	226
Doug Heydon	WB6WDS	226
Jack Clarke	WB6TCR	174
Frank Bayuk	WA6RZL	165
Larry Weaver	K6LTY	165
Joel Wineman	WA6WRB	153
Bob Hume	WB6AQF	105

There were many, many more operators who contributed to our total score. In addition, much credit must be given to our hard-working loggers, those unrecorded, but important participants, who kept the log and cheat sheet, and who made it possible for all of our operators to achieve top scores. Perhaps next year, we will work out a scheme to record who our loggers are for each QSO and give them rightful recognition by name.

SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION CONVENTION

The Southwestern Division of the ARRL is holding its annual convention in Santa Maria 21-22 October. Several club members have already signed up for this event. Your editor has a few application blanks available for anyone else who might wish to sign up. Give Ed a call at 52621.



WCARS TO THE RESCUE (OR, HAPPINESS IS 7255 KHz)

By Doug Heydon - WB6WDS

On Wednesday, August 30, late in the morning, several things were happening. At Space Park, members of the TRW ARC were getting ready to listen to Cec Jordan, WB6KHF, talk about his adventures in KL7 - land working VLF DX. Near the small Indian pueblo of Acoma, New Mexico, my family and I were coming to the realization that our vacation trip had come to a gooey halt, at least temporarily. Our VW bus was well and truly stuck in the mud.

Being an optimist by nature, I was reasonably sure I could dig our way out, but one of our seven-year old twins, Stephanie, said, "You better talk to somebody on your radio, Daddy." After a few minutes of trying my way, her idea seemed better and better, so at about 11:55 MDT I fired up the HW-22 on 7255 KHz. Lo and behold, there was a nice fat signal from W6AJC, the Net Control. A snappy "Break, Break" got his attention, and the world seemed a little brighter. He located a station willing to pass on the info for me, but since I couldn't copy the other station, it was necessary to relay.

Imagine, if you will, the hope that some rather obscure directions were getting through to an unheard operator, who in turn was going to call the AAA. The exact description of our location was "at the end of the picnic road, south of the Enchanted Mesa, near Acoma, New Mexico." Now, everyone knows where that is, right? After getting a QSL on this, my name and AAA number, I shut down the rig and went back to digging. About an hour, and lots of sweat, later we actually did get out. Only one problem confronted us - how to get back across/around the mud. Some of the grassy ground around the road appeared solid and dry, so I decided to explore. What I found was another place to get stuck! The kids went back to playing with the puppies at the nearby empty Indian house. Back on the air went WB6WDS/Mobile(?)5 to check on the status of help. A confirmation from WCARS of help on the way did a lot to lift the gloom, because this time there was no way I was going to get unstuck without lots of sturdy help.

Since we were about a mile from the main road to Acoma (Definition: Main Road - a gravel path with a traffic flow of one car/hour), it seemed prudent to wait there for the eagerly anticipated tow-truck. After about a half hour of waiting, a truck appeared - a pickup truck, from the wrong direction! It contained two elderly Acoma Indian ladies, who by chance lived in the house near where we were immobilized. After establishing an eyeball QSO with them, they said they would try to help. Diane and the kids were waiting in the shade at the picnic area by this time, while I waited in the sun and listened to the hum of activity around me - crickets chirping, birds soaring - that sort of thing.

Nothing else happened for about 45 minutes. Then, a dust trail above the road miles away to the north - the right direction. Sure enough, after what seemed like a very long time, a comfortably large, red, tow truck came around the bend. As I waved him to a stop, he asked "Are you Mr. Heydon?" When I said I was and how glad I was to see him, he gave me a funny look and said "I got a long distance call from the Auto Club in San Francisco to come pull you out of the mud!" Even after I told him about the marvels of 7255, I'm not sure he accepted it. He had come 39 miles, not even sure he'd find anyone needing him!

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Back on the scene, we found that the helpful Indian ladies had tried to pull Diane out of the goo, and gotten in it themselves. No problem for the big red tow truck, though. He had us both out in five minutes, and after exchanging thanks and best wishes with our Indian friends, we were on our way to Albuquerque. It was a little before 3:00, and I tried to check back into WCARS to let them know all was well. By a quirk, the band conditions had changed enough that I couldn't raise an answer. Telling ourselves how glad we were that things were "right" when we needed them, we drove on.

As is well known by most of my ham friends, I am more likely to be found in the CW end of a ham band than near the top. After our adventure in Indian Country, I may have to admit that there is a place for phone, too. Seriously, I put the rig in the car because I knew we would be travelling in some pretty isolated country, even though I honestly never thought we'd need to use it this way. It sure is a comforting feeling to know you can come up on 7255, give a double break, and have a whole bunch of guys and gals ready to help you out of a jam; WCARS, the Heydon family salute you!.

### EDITORS NOTE

By Ed Thornley, WA6JHD

We want to give our personal thanks to Doug Heydon, WB6WDS for putting into words his recent vacation experience with WCARS. Not only does this give credit to a hard-working group of hams who are there to help when you need them, it is also a nice item to carry in our Cross-Talk. Your editor can only collect the words and put them into some kind of readable form, he does not generate the news and articles of interest to all our members and readers. We appreciate any kind of article from all of our members and friends. It's what makes Cross-Talk worth your time to read. Feel free at any time to give us a few lines or paragraphs for your fellow members to share. A line or two about an interesting QSO, a new rig, or something that you think might be helpful to the rest of us. We'll be glad to run it, and it will make this little publication all the more valuable to the club.

### MORE WANT ADS

For sale - Heathkit SB 401 transmitter - excellent condition - 80-10 meter coverage - spare finals and other tubes - crystals  
180 Watt PEP input - cal Cec Jordan, WB6KHF, (213) 327-8274

### CLEVELAND QSO SCHEDULE

The next scheduled QSO with the Cleveland TRW amateur radio gang is October 7 at 1200 PDT (1900 GMT) on 14.325 MHz. We will be looking for John Williams, WA8WSO and his friends in the Cleveland area. So point your beam east and join the bunch on the 7th.